

FOREWORD

The Army has embarked on a bold and comprehensive transformation. The diverse array of complex threats our Nation faces in the coming years and America's responsibilities as a global leader necessitate our course. We will sustain our non-negotiable contract with the American people, to be prepared "to fight and win the Nation's wars," while transforming The Army into a force that will be responsive and dominant at every point on the spectrum of operations.

We have begun transforming *The Army* with the encouragement and support of our Nation's leaders. We move forward assured that the American people, the enduring source of our strength and institutional excellence, support our efforts to meet America's changing national security requirements. We will pursue transformation mindful of our sacred obligations to maintain a proud heritage of service to our Nation and to provide the most respected soldiers in the world with the tools they need to get the job done.

The transformed Army will meet the challenges of the 21st century with the new capabilities they demand. Failure to obtain the resources to transform, or to fully transform, will stretch yesterday's capabilities to meet today's requirements, and will relegate America's sons and daughters in uniform to a tomorrow of increasing uncertainty and risk. We are committed to changes that best serve the American people. We ask for the support that we need to meet the needs of the Nation so that *The Army* will continue to be *persuasive in peace*, *invincible in war* in the 21st century.